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C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 006980

SIPDIS

STATE FOR INR/B  
STATE/PM FOR DAS KARA BUE  
STATE/PM FOR MICHELE MARKOFF  
DOD FOR OASD/NII TIM BLOECHL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/01/2014

TAGS: [PINR](#) [KCIP](#) [TINT](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [IN](#) [US](#)

SUBJECT: INDO-US CYBERSECURITY FORUM: BIO NOTES FOR  
DELEGATION HEADS

Classified By: PolCouns Geoff Pyatt, Reasons 1.4 (B,D).

[¶1.](#) (SBU) Summary: This cable includes biographic data for Arvind Gupta, Joint Secretary, National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS), who will lead the GOI delegation to the

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November 9-10 Cybersecurity Forum in Washington, and his deputy, Commander Mukesh Saini. Unless otherwise specified, the below information is derived from official GOI biographies. End Summary.

Joint Secretary Gupta

[¶2.](#) (SBU) Arvind Gupta entered the Indian Foreign Service in 1979. His most recent posts were Moscow, London and Ankara, and before that, he was Under Secretary and then Deputy Secretary in the Afghanistan division of the Ministry of

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External Affairs (1984-89). Since September 1999, Gupta has been working as Joint Secretary in the NSCS. He is also the Co-Chairman of the Indo-US Cybersecurity Forum.

[¶3.](#) (C) According to his visa application and passport information, among Gupta's recent official trips are the following:

-- March-April 1995: United States  
-- June 2003: Russia  
-- September-October 2003: Russia and Germany  
-- October 2003: Poland  
-- November 2003: Russia

Gupta has also held visas for Jordan (2003) and Israel (2003) but travel to those countries is not confirmed.

[¶4.](#) (C) Gupta was born on 10 July 1953 in Nurpur, Himachal Pradesh. His wife, Purnima Malhotra Gupta, was born on 27 August 1954 in Madhya Pradesh. She works for the GOI Planning Commission.

Deputy Director (Information Security) Saini

[¶5.](#) (SBU) Commander Saini, who heads the National Information Security Coordination Cell at the NSCS, is responsible for coordinating the activities of the National Information Board, implementing recommendations from the Information Security Task Force, and managing sectoral cybersecurity officers. Saini is also a member of various joint working groups, including the Indo-US Cyber Security Forum; the E-Governance and Information Security JWG; the Next Generation Internet Protocol JWG; and the Indo-Canada Counterterrorism JWG.

[¶6.](#) (SBU) A serving naval officer on special assignment to the NSCS, Saini is a specialist in communications and electronic warfare. In the Indian Navy, Saini served in various command and staff positions. He was Deputy Director/Naval Signals (Telecommunications and Networking) prior to his present appointment.

[¶7.](#) (SBU) Saini is a 1983 graduate of the National Defense Academy and hold three postgraduate degrees: Master of Science in Defense and Strategic Studies; Master of Business Administration; and Master of Computer Applications. He is also a graduate of the Defense Services Staff College.

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